

Courses previously taken by Lipson Scholars related to humanistic values

Asian American Studies 132 AC- "Islamophobia"

This course will examine and attempt to understand Islamophobia, as the most recently articulated principle of otherness and its implications domestically and globally. The course will also closely examine the ideological and epistemological frameworks employed in discourses of otherness, and the complex social, political, economic, gender-based, and religious forces entangled in its historical and modern reproduction.

Interdisciplinary Studies 100B

Introduction to Social Theory and Cultural Analysis

This course explores how we understand the idea of the self in contemporary social worlds. The course shares the presumption that the modern self is a created endeavor. It charts traditional and contemporary understandings of individual identity, the maturation process and the notion of an inner life, the concepts of freedom and individual agency, the force of evolution and heredity, and the influence of social causation. The course stresses the complex interplay between the development of a sense of self, and the socialization pressures at work in the family, society, and global cultures.

LGBT 145, "Queering the Past"

This course examines interpretive issues in studying the history of sexuality and the formation of sexual identities and communities. Considering primary documents, secondary literature, and theoretical essays, we investigate specific historiographical concerns and raise questions about historical methodology and practice.

Linguistics 151, Language and Gender

An overview of research over the past 30 years on the relationship between language and gender: how women's use of language differs from men's, in U.S. and other cultures; how men and women are spoken of differently; how women and men have different amounts of access to power via public discourse; gender differences in nondominant groups (e.g., lesbians and gays; African Americans); the role of stereotyping in linguistic differences between the sexes; role of gender in discourse genres.

Peace and Conflict Studies 100

Peace Theory: Approaches and Analyses

This course will explore the historical development of the field through analysis of the operative assumptions, logic, and differing approaches of the seminal schools and thinkers that have shaped the field. Students will become familiar with the body of literature and major debates in peace studies and research.

Peace and Conflict Studies 151

International Conflict: Analysis and Resolution

Inspired by the changed meaning of international conflict and the expanding mission of conflict resolution in the post-cold war era, this course will study the contemporary context and issues of conflict by examining the evolution in thinking about conflict, the resolution, and their application in practice.

Public Policy 115

Global Poverty: Challenges and Hopes in the New Millennium (GPP/CP 115)

Students will participate in the key theoretical debates about global poverty and inequality. This course will teach students about different models of poverty alleviation and methods for evaluating such models and practices. (4 units, offered fall semester)

Public Policy C 103

Wealth and Poverty (GPP/C 103)

This course is designed to provide students with a deeper understanding of both the organization of the political economy in the United States and of other advanced economies, and why the distribution of earnings, wealth, and opportunity have been diverging in the United States and in other nations. It also is intended to provide insights into the political and public-policy debates that have arisen in light of this divergence, as well as possible means of reversing it.

Sociology 130 AC- "Social Inequalities"

This course explores the causes and consequences of inequality in the U.S. First, we will discuss theories and concepts scholars use to understand inequality. We then consider several institutions that sustain, reproduce and/or mitigate inequality in the U.S., such as education, labor markets, family structure, and the criminal justice system. Within each topic, we pay attention to the significance of race and ethnicity, social class, and gender. This course satisfies the American cultures requirement.

Other recommended courses related to humanistic values

African American Studies 5A “African American Life and Culture in the United States”

A study of the genesis, development, and scope of African American culture, approached through an examination of selected art forms, historical themes, and intellectual currents.

African American Studies 27AC “Lives of Struggle: Minorities in a Majority Culture”

The purpose of this course is to examine the many forms that the struggle of minorities can assume. The focus is on individual struggle and its outcome as reported and perceived by the individuals themselves. Members of three minority aggregates are considered: African Americans, Asian Americans (so called), and Chicano/Latino Americans. The choice of these three has to do with the different histories of members of these aggregates. Such differences have produced somewhat different approaches to struggle. This course satisfies the American cultures requirement.

Classics 10A “Introduction to Greek Civilization”

This course studies of the major developments, achievements, and contradictions in Greek culture from the Bronze Age to the 4th century BCE. Key works of literature, history, and philosophy (read in English translation) will be examined in their political and social context, and in relation both to other ancient Mediterranean cultures and to subsequent developments in Western civilization.

Classics R44 “Roots of Western Civilization”

This course covers Homeric and Classical Greece, Rome in its transition from republic to empire, and the world of the Old Testament. Lectures, discussions, and reading assignments will involve interdisciplinary approaches with an emphasis on the development of skill in writing. The class satisfies either half of the Reading and Composition requirement plus one of the following Letters and Science breadth requirements: Arts and Literature, Historical Studies, or Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Gender and Women’s Studies 14 “Gender, Sexuality, and Race in Global Political Issues”

This course looks at the production of gender, sexuality, and processes of racialization in contemporary global political issues. Topics and geographical foci may vary. Examples: the post-9-11 situation in the U.S. and U.S. wars in Afghanistan and Iraq; Hindu-Muslim conflict in India; the wars in the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda; the Israel/Palestine situation; global right-wing movements; state and social movement terrorisms and transnational “security” measures.

Gender and Women’s Studies 141 “Interrogating Global Economic Development”

An introduction to women and gender in “development.” Addresses theories of “development” (modernization, demographic transition, dependency, world systems, post-development, postcolonial, and transnational feminist); productions and representations of “underdevelopment”; national and international “development” apparatuses; “development” practices about labor, population, resources, environment, literacy, technologies, media; and women’s resistance and alternatives.

International and Area Studies 105 “The Ethics, Methods, and Pragmatics of Global Practice

This course is intended to provide students with the necessary background and knowledge to undertake projects and work experience of a global scope. Students will be exposed to a diversity of methodological frameworks, introduced to the basic skills needed to effectively participate in organizations, and to understand the ethics of global service and practice. Each student will be required to complete a major project beginning with the conceptualization of the problem to field research to forming partnerships and communicating with local organizations and communities to the dissemination of project results.

International and Area Studies 115 “Global Poverty: Hopes and Challenges in the New Millennium

This class seeks to provide a rigorous understanding of 20th-century development and thus 21st-century poverty-alleviation. Students will take a look at popular ideas of poverty-alleviation, the institutional framework of poverty ideas and practices, the social and political mobilizations that seek to transform the structures of poverty

Legal Studies (LEGALST) 151 “Law, Self, and Society”

International human rights are at the forefront of national and international dialogue. These discussions reflect the evolution of human rights from declaratory statements to rights enforceable in courts. Using historic documents, timely current articles, and a new international human rights document being drafted at Berkeley, we will learn about the recognition of human rights, existing institutions to protect human rights, and look forward to the future of human rights.

Peace and Conflict Studies 126 “International Human Rights”

This course provides an overview to the historical, theoretical, political, and legal underpinnings that have shaped and continue to shape the development of human rights. Students are introduced to substantive topics within human rights and provided an

opportunity to develop critical thinking, oral presentation, and writing skills. We discuss where the concept of human rights originates, how these ideas have been memorialized in international declarations and treaties, how they develop over time, and how they are enforced and monitored. We examine a variety of issues and encourage students to think differently--to analyze world and community events through a human rights framework utilizing some of the necessary tools to investigate, research, and think critically about human rights and the roles that we may assume within this arena. The course requires two six-page papers, participation in a team debate, and an independent reading assignment

Peace and Conflict Studies 164A "Introduction to Nonviolence"

This course is an introduction to the science of nonviolence, mainly as seen through the life and work of Mahatma Gandhi. Historical overview of nonviolence East and the West up to the American Civil Rights movement and Martin Luther King, Jr., with emphasis on the ideal of principled nonviolence and the reality of mixed or strategic nonviolence in practice, especially as applied to problems of social justice and defense.

Philosophy 2 "Individual Morality and Social Justice"

Introduction to ethical and political philosophy.

Philosophy 108 "Individual Morality and Social Justice"

This course will be devoted to in-depth discussion of a variety of problems in moral philosophy raised by real-life questions of individual conduct and social policy. Its contents will vary from occasion to occasion. Possible topics include philosophical problems posed by affirmative action, abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, terrorism, war, poverty, and climate change.

Political Science 124C "Ethics and Justice in International Affairs"

Should nations intervene in other countries to prevent human rights abuses or famine? On what principles should immigration be based? Should wealthy states aid poorer states, and if so, how much? Who should pay for global environmental damage? Answers to these moral questions depend to a great degree on who we believe we have an obligation to: Ourselves? Nationals of our country? Residents of our country? Everyone in the world equally? We will examine different traditions of moral thought including skeptics, communitarians, cosmopolitans, and use these traditions as tools to make reasoned judgments about difficult moral problems in world politics.

Political Science 137C "Democracy and Its Alternatives in The Developing World"

This course offers a comparative study of the wave of democratization that swept much of Latin America, Southern Europe, East Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, and the former Soviet Union during the past three decades. The course will analyze the theoretical literatures on regime change and compare experiences of countries emerging from bureaucratic authoritarianism, military rule, personalistic dictatorships, and state socialism. In addition to dealing with democratization, the course will address the reverse phenomenon, meaning movement from more democratic to more authoritarian regimes, a tendency that has been increasingly evident during the past decade. We will investigate, among other topics: the meaning of democracy and authoritarianism, the factors that facilitate or hinder democratization, the roles of mass movements, the significance of constitutional arrangements, problems of nationalism and ethnic conflict, and the relationship between economic transformation and political regime change.

Political Science 186 "Public Problems"

Homelessness, global warming, corruption, bankrupt pension systems, educational inequality: the list of intractable public problems seems to grow every year. This course explores the way societies try to address and solve difficult and seemingly intractable public problems. Can we attribute success or failure to institutions and their capacity to solve problems? Are problems difficult to solve because they are complex or because of a failure of political will? What are the characteristics of organizations or communities that are able to solve problems? How are public problems framed and how are they used to mobilize constituencies? The course draws on literature in public administration, public policy studies, and democratic theory to try to better understand some of the major social, political, environmental, and economic problems of our contemporary world.

Public Policy C164 "Impact of Government Policies on Poor Children and Families"

This course may be applied to the Demography major. Three hours of lecture per week. Examination of the impact of policies of state intervention and public benefit programs on poor children and families. Introduction to child and family policy, and study of specific issue areas, such as income transfer programs, housing, health care, and child abuse

Sociology 123 "Corporate Social Responsibility and Green Business"

A corporation is a "citizen" of a society and, like all other citizens, has certain legal, regulatory, moral, and ethical duties. This course will examine the definitions of corporate social responsibility and examples of good and bad corporate citizenship based on some of those definitions, with an emphasis on "green business", ways in which corporations minimize their impact on the environment.

Sociology 137AC "Environmental Justice: Race, Class, Equity, and the Environment"

Overview of the field of environmental justice, analyzing the implications of race, class, labor, and equity on environmental degradation and regulation. Environmental justice movements and struggles within poor and people of color communities in the U.S., including: African Americans, Latino Americans, and Native American Indians. Frameworks and methods for analyzing race, class, and labor. Cases of environmental injustice, community and government responses, and future strategies for achieving environmental and labor justice. Also listed as Environ Sci, Policy, and Management I 63AC.

See also courses offered in the African American Studies department, American Cultures, Asian American Studies, Chicano Studies, Ethnic Studies, Gender & Women's Studies, Interdisciplinary Studies, LGBT Studies, Latin American Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Native American Studies, Peace and Conflict Studies, Political Science, Public Policy, Religious Studies, and Sociology.